

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Cancel claims 1-6.

7. (Currently amended) A machine for linearizing pieces of material comprising:

a plurality of pairs of saw blades that are spaced apart;

a conveyor system of at least one chain having a plurality of pairs of teeth, with said teeth of said chain being of a generally trapezoidal shape, each pair of teeth for holding a piece of the material between the teeth of the pair, and wherein

a conveyor system chain carries a piece of the material successively between each pair of said plurality of pairs of said saw blades that cuts the extending ends of the material piece held between a pair of teeth..

8. (Currently amended) The machine as claimed in claim ~~7~~ 15 wherein said conveyor system comprises a separate conveyor chain for each of said pairs of saw blades.

9. (Currently amended) The machine as claimed in claim ~~7~~ 15 wherein said teeth of a chain are of generally trapezoidal shape

10. (Currently amended) The machine as claimed in claim ~~9~~ 7 further comprising a belt above a conveyor chain for engaging a piece of the material into the space between a pair of teeth.

11. (Currently amended) The machine as claimed in claim ~~7~~ 15 wherein said saw blades are radial blades.

12. (Previously presented) The machine as claimed in claim 8 further comprising a belt above a conveyor chain for engaging a piece of the material into the space between a pair of teeth.

13. (Currently amended) The machine as claimed in claim 8 wherein the number of pairs of parallel saw blades increase in succession as the pieces of material are conveyed by said conveyor system in the direction of travel of said conveyor system.

14. (Currently amended) The machine as claimed in claim 7 15 wherein the pieces of material are the endocarp of coconut.

15. (New) A machine for linearizing pieces of material comprising:
a plurality of pairs of parallel saw blades that are spaced apart along the direction of travel of the pieces being linearized;
a conveyor system of at least one chain to successively carry the pieces from one pair of said plurality of pairs of saw blades to the next pair;
each said conveyor system chain having a plurality of pairs of teeth for holding a piece of the material between a pair of teeth with ends of the material piece extending over the edges of the chain and presenting the ends of the piece held between a pair of teeth generally transverse to the saw blades of a pair of such blades to cut the extending ends of the material piece;
and

a belt over a conveyor chain for engaging the material piece to hold it in the space between a pair of teeth.